[5th September 1928

Education Department was invoked. A special officer of the Agricultural Department was deputed for a period of two months in 1924 to give a series of lantern lectures on the subject of the school and conduct special propaganda on its behalf in the different villages of Vizagapatam district.

(*d*) The proposals are just now under the consideration of the Director of Agriculture.

Provision of clerks to Agricultural Demonstrators.

* 158 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have at any time considered the necessity of providing clerks to Agricultural Demonstrators, at least to those who are at district headquarters, so that they may have more time to do executive work?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"May I know whether the Government have considered the question as to how much time the Agricultural Demonstrators at district headquarters have to devote to clerical and other office work?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"The Demonstrators have to do more of touring and demonstration work than of desk work."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha:—"When the Demonstrators go out touring, may I know who attends to the work of giving seeds, manures and other things to persons who want them?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"The peon will attend to it."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha:—"May I ask whether the peon has any authority to do anything of this kind except to keep watch?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"He will be keeping watch and getting the orders. As soon as the Demonstrator returns, those orders will be executed."

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda:—"Are the Government aware that the Demonstrators spend a considerable amount of time in correspondence and that their touring work is hampered?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Their writing work is far less than their demonstration work."

Co-operative Societies

Appointment of Muhammadans as Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies.

* 159 Q.—Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies in this Presidency;

(*b*) how many of them are Muhammadans;

(*c*) how many appointments of such Assistant Registrars were made by the Government from 1st January 1928 up to date; and

(*d*) how many of them were filled by Muhammadans?

5th September 1928]

A.—(*a*) Thirty.
(*b*) One.
(*c*) Ten.
(*d*) None.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib :—" Out of 30 appointments, may I know why only one appointment is held by a Muhammadan? Why no Muhammadan was appointed to any of the 10 new appointments? May I ask whether it is due to want of applicants or want of competent Muslim hands?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" There were two Muhammadan Assistant Registrars; one was promoted as Deputy Registrar. As regards new appointments, none of the applicants was found to be satisfactory by the Registrar and therefore none was appointed this year."

Recovery of arrears due to Co-operative Societies.

* 160 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the proposals under the consideration of the Government for recovering arrears due to co-operative societies under the provisions of the Revenue Recovery Act?

A.—The advisability of removing the present limit of forty applications per taluk for realization of co-operative arrears under the Revenue Recovery Act was discussed at the last Collectors' Conference. The final opinion of the Conference was that the methods adopted in other Provinces should be ascertained, that the question of empowering Village Courts to execute the decrees should be considered and that the possibility of appointing special officers for particularly bad districts to reduce the arrears should be examined. Definite proposals have been called for from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on the above suggestions.

Co-ordination of the activities of the Development Department in each district.

* 161 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the proposals under the consideration of the Government for co-ordinating the activities of the Development Department in each district?

A.—The Registrar of Co-operative Societies proposed that quarterly meetings of the district officers referred to in Mr. K. T. Paul's note appended to the report of the Committee on Co-operation might be held, with the Collector of the district as President. The proposals were discussed at the last Collectors' Conference when it was agreed that the best thing would be for the Collectors to arrange for such conferences, whenever necessary.